GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:275
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2003
PROJECTS UNDER NATIONAL RIVER CONSERVATION PLAN
IQBAL AHMED SARADGI

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government agencies and local bodies have made little progress in implementing the projects under National River Conservation Plan;

(b) if so, whether some schemes, aimed at making waterways cleaner and limiting pollution levels in cities, have not even taken off, though the Government have released funds;

(c) if so, the reasons for delay; and

(d) the remedial steps the Government propose to take in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (d) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 275 to be answered on Monday, the March 10, 2003 on Projects under National River Conservation Plan.

(a) to (d) Under the National River Conservation Plan, pollution abatement works have been taken up in 155 towns along the polluted stretches of 29 rivers spread over 17 States. The different components of the Plan have been approved at different times from 1993 till date. The present estimated cost of approved works is Rs. 3438 crore. Out of a total number of 1061 projects, 758 numbers of projects have been sanctioned where works are under implementation. Of these 351 numbers of projects have been completed. A total amount of about Rs.1195 crore has been released to the State Governments for implementation of the approved works. The main reasons for delay in sanctioning of the remaining projects are delay in land acquisition and preparation of detailed project reports (DPR) by the implementing agencies. The State Government agencies concerned have been asked to submit the proposals of the remaining projects expeditiously.